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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,223	02/24/2004	Shinji Uchida	SHO-0063	1577

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WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

NASRI, JAVAID H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/784,223

Applicant(s)

UCHIDA, SHINJI

Examiner

Javaid Nasri

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2, 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kameda (6,733,311) in view of Rundle (3,673,545, cited in previous office action).

Kameda discloses, **for claim 1**, an insulative plug housing (20) having a frame part and a header part (25) having a mounting board (surface of 25) and formed integrally with the frame part, the header part protruding from the frame part (protruding inside) and inserted into a mating receptacle, wherein the male contacts are arrayed in parallel on both surfaces of the mounting board for mounting the male contacts, and a shutter (11) covering the male contacts when the header part is removed from the mating receptacle and is housed in the frame part by being pushed by the mating receptacle so as to expose the male contacts when the header part is inserted into the mating receptacle, **for claim 2**, an elastic member (23) for pushing out the shutter to cover the male contacts when the header pad is removed from the mating receptacle, **for claim 8**, the shutter has a first shutter wall and a second shutter wall which are opposed to each other with the male contacts disposed therebetween; each of the first shutter wall and the second shutter wall has a pair of restricting frames (14) on both flanks thereof; restricting frames has a groove (space between two 14), each of the surfaces of the mounting board for mounting

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the male contacts is provided with a pair of rails (22) edges of the surface, and on opposite the rail is engaged with the groove in such a manner where the shutter can move back and forth, **for claim 11**, a receptacle capable of being connected with the electric plug.

However, Kameda does not disclose:

- a) **for claim 1**, male contacts of flexible leaf springs, each male contact having a flexible top part, and a pair of the flexible top parts of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed therebetween are raised towards opposite directions to each other; Rundle discloses male contacts of flexible leaf springs, each male contact having a flexible top part, and a pair of the flexible top parts of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed therebetween are raised towards opposite directions to each other, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Kameda to have male contacts of flexible leaf springs, each male contact having a flexible top part, and a pair of the flexible top parts of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed therebetween are raised towards opposite directions to each other in view of Rundle for reliable connections.
- b) **for claim 5**, legs of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mating board disposed therebetween extend from the header part towards opposite directions to each other to be fixed on a printed-circuit board. Official notice is taken that contacts towards opposite directions to each

other to be fixed on a printed-circuit board is well known in the art, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Kameda to have contacts towards opposite directions to each other to be fixed on a printed-circuit board for solder connections.

Rundle also discloses, for **claims 3 and 4**, Rundle also discloses, a distance between the flexible top parts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between is slightly larger than a width of the top board to make respective ones of the male contacts press respective ones of female contacts of the mating receptacle.

3. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kameda in view of Rundle as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Yu et al (2004/0132325, cited in previous office action).

Kameda in view of Rundle discloses all the limitations of claim 1, as shown above,

However, Kameda in view of Rundle does not disclose:

- a) **for claims 6 and 7**, a shell for covering the frame part; and pairs of soldering tabs arranged on edges of the shell to be fixed on the printed-circuit board. Yu et al discloses a shell (14) for covering the frame part; and pairs of soldering tabs arranged edges of the shell to be fixed on the printed-circuit board, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Kameda in view of Rundle to have a shell for covering the frame part; and pairs of soldering

tabs arranged on edges of the shell to be fixed on the printed-circuit board
in view of Yu et al for better connections for shielding from interference.

Response to Arguments

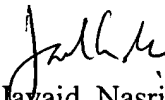
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Javaid Nasri
Primary Examiner
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Jhn

October 4, 2005